

Dippy

the DIPLOMACY (the game created by Allan Calhamer but now owned and marketed by the Avalon-Hill Co) supplement to the Sunday Western Star-Post-Free Press, Vol 26, No 3, February 18, 1996

DIPPY is published by the Great Western Publishing Co & Whalebone Corset Works Unc, aka Jim Benes, 417 S Stough St, Hinsdale, Ill 60521. Game fee is \$5 plus a continuing subscription to this rag at the rate of 50c per issue.

DIPPY STANDBYS:

- 1) Stan Johnson
- 2) Peter Boyum
- 3) Randy Davis

DIPPY GAME #42, the Jackie Robinson, 1994AJ, Winter, 1908:

Austria-Hungary (Terry Lachcik): Checks in, but there's no change. Has: A GAL, A SIL, A BOH, A RUM, A SER

England (Robert Acheson): Builds F EDI...Also has: F BELG, A PIC, F DEN, F SKAG

France (John Schultz): f spa sc retreats to LYON... Removes f brest... Also has: A BURG, A GAS

Germany (Paul Milewski): removes a mun...Has: A KIEL, F NTH, A RUHR, F HOLL ...[GM--and thanks for catching our typo about the dislodged Italian fleet. Mr McLendon and Mr York caught it also:

Italy (Steve McLendon): f ion retreats to TUN... Builds F NAP...Also has: F SPA SC, F WMED, A MAR, F MID

Russia (Andy York): No change. Has: A MOS, A UKR, A WAR, F BOT, F SWE

Turkey (Stan Johnson): No change. Has: A ARM, A BULG, A SEV, F AEG, F BLACK, F ION

DEADLINE for Spring, 1909, orders is mail delivery of March 6th, 1996 Press: none

DIPPY GAME #43, the Down at the Mouth, 1987HE, Endgame Statement:

We received one endgame statement which is merely an attack on one of the players. We have decided not to print it.

DIPPY Game #44, the Henry Aaron, 1995 AX, Fall, 1904:

Austria-Hungary (Terry Lachcik): a vie retreats to BOH... A BOH-vie CONTROLS: nothing any more. Out!

England (Stan Johnson): f lon retreats to YORK... a lvp-wales/DISLODGED, must retreat to edi, york or otb; F CLY-natl; f york-LON; F NTH sup f york-lon

CONTROLS: edi,lon,nwy--3--Minus one unit

France (Roscoe McPherrren): f lon h/DISLODGED, must retreat to engch, wales, or otb; A BELG H; F TUN H; a wales-LVP; F IRI sup a wales-lvp; F NATL-clv

CONTROLS: brest,mar,par,belg,spa,port,lvp,tun--8--Add two units

Germany (David Burgess): A LYN-war; A PRU sup a mun-sil; A BER sup a mun-sil; a mun-SIL; F BALT-swe

CONTROLS: ber,kiel,mun,holl--4--Minus one unit

Italy (Andy York): F APU-adr; A VEN sup a tyro-tri; A TYRO-tri; f tyrr-NAP

CONTROLS: nap,rome,ven--3--Minus one unit

Russia (Steve McLendon): F DEN H; F SWE sup f den; a mos-STP; a war-MOS; a sil-WAR; A GAL sup a sil-war; A VIE sup Turkish a tri-tyro

CONTROLS: mos,stp,sev,bud,rum,swe,den,vie,var--9--Add two units

lover...

DIPPY Game #44 continued:

Turkey (Robert Sergeant): F E MED sup f ion; a gre-ALB; F ION H; F ADR-ven; F AEG sup f ion; A TRI-tyro; A SER-tri

CONTROLS: ank, con, smy, gre, ser bulg, tri--7--No change.

DEADLINE for Winter, 1904, adjustments is mail delivery of March 6, 1996.

Press:

GERMANY-WORLD: Sorry...that's my first ever NMR. I tried to call my orders in to Jim at about 5:30 on the 24th. But Jim said they were to late.

GERMANY-RUSSIA: St Pete would have been mine!!!

FRANCE-ITALY: You correspond about as well as the old Italy.

DIPPY Game #45, the Revenge of the Office Boys, 1990X, Spring 1914:

England (John Schultz): f lvp-IRI; f lon-ENGCH; a york-BELG; F NTH con a york-belg; a swe-NWY; A FIN sup a swe-nwy; f den-BALT; A KIEL sup German a ber; A BURG sup German a mun; F HOLL sup a kiel; A MAR H; F LYON-tyrr; F TUN sup f lyon-tyrr; F WMED sup f tun; f edi-NWG

Germany (Robert Acheson): A MUN sup a ber; A BER sup a mun

Turkey (Randy Davis): F TYRR-lyon; F TUS sup f tyrr-lyon; F ION-tyrr; F ~~ROME~~ sup f ion-tyrr; F NAP sup f ion-tyrr; F ADR-ion; f smy-EMED; f con-AEG; A PIED H; A VEN sup a pied; a gal-BOH; A TYRO sup a gal-boh; a war-MOS; A STP H; A PRU-ber; A SIL sup a pru-ber; A SER, UNORDERED, H

DEADLINE for Fall, 1914, orders is mail delivery of March 6, 1996.

Press: none.

ANNOUNCING:

DIPPY Game #46, the Finale, the last DIPPY Game.

Yes, friends, after all these years, new family pressures on time and money force us to look for an end to DIPLOMACY publishing. We intend this to be the final game played in these pages. No more starts. No more orphan games. When this game ends (unless one of those above is still going--and who knows?), that will be the end of DIPPY.

That is some months off, however. In the meantime, this game is now open. Game fee is \$5 plus a continuing subscription to this rag at the rate of 50 cents per issue. Please include your country preference list when you sign up!

ANNOUNCING

DIPCON XXIX

and

WORLD DIPCON VI

together at

ORIGINS 96

Here's all the details:

DC/WDC will be held in conjunction with Origins 96 in Columbus, Ohio on July 4-7th, 1996. Dip rounds will be Friday night, Saturday morning and Sunday morning. There will be a variant event on Saturday night. There will also be a team event. Early Sunday morning will play host to the Dipcon Society meeting. If that's not enough, the World Dipcon Society meeting will immediately follow. This promises to be entertaining, if not informative.

Registration: This will be handled by the Origins staff. You may get on their mailing list and order a prereg booklet by calling 1-206-204-5815 or email ANDON@AOL.com or at Andon Unlimited PO Box 1740 Renton, WA 98057. The cost is \$35 and you will need to buy one pre-reg ticket at \$3. You will not need a ticket for each individual round. One ticket is good for the whole ball game!

Housing: The official Origins hotel is the Hyatt at a convention rate of \$85 a night. They can be reached at (614)463-1234. This hotel is connected to the convention center. If you're willing to drive a short ways, I can direct you to several other Red Roof type hotels in the Columbus area that will save you some \$\$\$\$.

We will have an room exclusively for our use at Origins. This has been a concern in the past that will not be a problem. The Origins staff will not have anything to do with Dipcon. That will be solely under the control of the Dipcon Committee.

Larry Peery is overseeing the WDC portion of the show. He's got quite a few foreign dippers ready to go and this should be one incredible Diplomacy tournament!!!!

Here's what I'd like to have from everyone for the next update:

1. Variant ideas - I'm leaning towards 34 player Anarchy Dip. But that's not a given. Please provide your suggestions!
2. Questions on anything involving Dipcon/World Dipcon/ Origins, travel, Columbus. I'll do my best to answer them or get an answer for you.
3. Let me know if you're coming! Since Origins is handling the pre-reg, I won't have the names of attendees until the con itself. Let me here from you!!!! The Dipcon Committee is Steve Cooley, Dan Mathias Director of Scoring and me, Bruce Reiff Chairman. I can be reached the following ways:

mail: 2207 Smokey View Blvd, Powell, OH 43065 phone: work (614)431-4400 ext 260 home: (614)792-2764
Email: BDReiff@AOL.com

50c by post

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City

NEWSPAGE SPROTZ, provided for us by
Universal Baseball Commissioner
Darryl Mellema:

From the June 1936 issue of
Baseball magazine, under the
title of "Freak Pitching De-
liveries - Past and Present."
The story was subtitled
"Tricks, Legal and Illegal,
Employed by Pitchers in Their
Never Ending Battle of Wits
Against the Hitters"

By Hugh Bradley

The Hitters haven't as much
trickiness to contend with
nowadays, as when you and I
were young, Maggie, but there
are still plenty of fellows
with freak deliveries around
trying to make the going
tough. And some of the boys
will cheat, too, to make it
tougher.

A pitcher can, of course,
pitch a ball sidearm, over-
hand, between his legs, over
either ear or down his nose
providing he stays on the pit-
ching slab and abides by the
balk rules. Given such oppor-
tunity the pitchers have first
of all, managed to come up
with a variety of unorthodox
motions.

One of the trickiest wind-
ups around today is the turn-
table delivery used by Fred
Fitzsimmons of the Giants and
Earl Whitehill of Washington's
Senators. They both wheel un-
til their backs are toward the
plate and their heads turned
toward second base. Then they
bring the ball around sidearm
fashion.

Fitzsimmons, whose Sunday
pitch is the knuckleball, has
the more pronounced delivery
of the two, some observers
say. Despite the fact that he
takes his eyes off the plate
while engaging in the wind-up,
he has good control. The con-
trol of Whitehill, a left-han-
der, could be better.

Fitz was an ordinary right-
hander with an orthodox side-
arm delivery when the Giants
bought from Indianapolis in
1925. John McGraw thought he
should hide the ball more,
though and taught him the
turntable kick he now uses. He
worked for hours to perfect it
at the Sarasota training camp
in 1926.

The Giants had two special-
ists in freak deliveries on
(See BASEBALL, page 2)

The Clarion-call of Eccentrics
Everywhere...

QUOTABLE: "What we know most
about we often tend to think
most important."--J M Roberts
in The Hutchinson History of
the World...

St Louis archaeologist Carol
Diaz-Granados, about her quest
to dig up an old landfill in
search of the remains of the
Ferris wheel that graced the
1904 World's Fair: "The thing
I want to emphasize is, this
is not Geraldo Rivera looking
for Al Capone's vault..."

From Jay Leno on The Tonight
Show: "According to a new re-
port, since the 1980s Bob &
Elizabeth Dole have managed to
save \$380,000 on their taxes
through tax shelters. You know
the old saying 'There's noth-
ing certain except death and
taxes' and it looks like Bob
Dole has managed to avoid them
both." And: "Did you see the
pictures of the President jog-
ging with a Secret Service
agent? When I looked closer he
was just trying to outrun a
guy serving a subpoena..."

KALDENAR: The Universal Base-
ball Association draft for
1996, using 1936 players, will
be held on Feb 25 in "The
Baseball Room" at Chuck & Mat-
thew Myers' home...

CUBSOX KVIZ: Which White Sox
managers were called Round Man
and Slat? (Answer in Sprotz)
FIVE YEARS AGO IN THE STAR:

--Natalie Olinger was point-
ing out flaws in AUTOWEEK mag-
azine which referred to Chica-
go's expressway system as
"freeways," and spelled Mayor
Daley's name without an "e."

--Brian Davis was raising a
red flag about a wire service
story that said that Singapore
would be fully wired within 10
years [that's 5 years now,
folks]. In the piece the cen-
sus taker who showed up at a
woman's door already knew all
about her, maybe even more
about her than she did her-
self. Brian said that was very
scary, Big Brother on the ho-
rizon...

--Mary Novak found an AP
sports item that began: "The
spell is broken. The curse of
the burgeoning buttocks is
lifted from the land, and six
months of football is over."

HERB COHN

THE BROKEN FROZEN WATER PIPE
DAMAGE at the Slonim house is
even worse than we reported
last week. Scott & Nancy will
have to rebuild a basement
wall and replace all down-
stairs carpeting. This means
the computer has been moved,
and it may take Scott some
time to get up and running on
the TBA stats again. Nancy's
car also sustained some dam-
age. Wow!

A postcard from Marilyn
Idelman-Soglin down under,
dated Jan 31: "This is our
last day in Australia. We are
sorry to say "Good-bye." We
had fun in Cairns, taking the
train to Kuranda and a boat to
the Great Barrier Reef. In the
gold coast, Dan won some money
at Jupiter's Casino...and then
gave it back! In the capital
of Canberra, we toured the war
museum and parliament. We
stayed at a gorgeous Hyatt,
modeled after Frank Lloyd
Wright's style. We loved Syd-
ney--taking a ferry boat on
the harbour and touring the
opera house." And now we'll
have to schedule a STAR dinner
so Marilyn & Dan can describe
their exploits in full detail,
don't ya know...

CAN SPRING BE FAR AWAY when
you get PR releases across
your desk like the one we got
this week? It was dated Palm
Desert, Calif, and it an-
nounced the unveiling of the
first hydrogen-powered fuel
cell golf cart. The fuel cells
convert hydrogen and oxygen
directly into electricity.
Their inventor, Dr Peter Leh-
man, says they're twice as
efficient as an internal com-
bustion engine, and the most
environmentally clean source
of power ever developed. So
when can we see hydrogen fuel
cells powering cars?

SPEAKING OF GOLF, Rich King
was on Channel 9 this past
weekend, with a piece on one
of the two golf shows that was
in town. As he putted and con-
tinually missed the hole, he
told his viewers, "Your re-
porter displays his mid-season
form, going oh-for-seven in
putting, as the pro on hand
delivers a justifiable insult
about King's style." It's good
to laugh at yourself...

BASEBALL (continued from page one)

their pitching staff at one time when Jack Bentley was sunning himself at the Polo Grounds. He also turned almost all the way around and when he swung back toward the batter. He not only tossed the ball up there but also a large foot that threatened to kick the hitter in the face. And the Yankees had a good one too in Joe Bush, who turned around and gave the boys the hip all day, as they say in the dugouts.

The idea of such goings-on, of course, it to add some deception to a pitcher's natural equipment. Dazzy Vance used his torn right sleeve to confuse the issue while he tossed his fireballs for the greater honor and glory of Brooklyn. Fred Frankhouse, a present-day Dodger, helps hide the ball by swinging his gloved hand before him as he comes around with a sidearm pitch.

Buck Newsome was quite a sight, too, when he used his windmill wind-up in which he waved both arms in the air. The Senators' right-hander discarded that, probably for the same reason that most young pitchers who affect freak deliveries forget about them - because they tire themselves out and because they find it harder that ever to control the ball.

And then there is John Pezzullo, a young left-hander with the Phillies, who still is quite a sight. Ballplayers say that the young man, discovered by Tom, the good gray coach of the Giants, and passed to Philadelphia in a deal, first throws out a shoe. Then a glove appears, a hip swings out and an arm comes around. The ball is thrown, finally, to a batter who is sometimes so bewildered by the whole business that he forgets to swing. No wonder! Players swear the ball Pezzullo tosses up, finally, jumps, glides, sinks and sometimes collapses.

Long before Newsome wound up his windmill motion, Lefty George, who pitched for the Cincinnati Reds around 1915, was confusing one and all with similar gyrations. He baffled Casey Stengel so much one afternoon in fact that Stengel swung at what he thought was a pitch when George threw over to first base. At least that is Casey's story and since the Brooklyn manager was a pretty swell batter in his day there is no harm in telling it here for the sake of emphasis.

Patsy Flaherty, a somewhat earlier left-hander, who pitched for the Braves and Phillies, got the boys as badly balled up with his quick pitches. The catcher was supposed to return the ball to him as soon as he received it and Flaherty would whip it back in underhand-fashion. He sometimes threw five quick pitches in a row before letting up on a man. Did all right, too.

One of the best known freak deliveries was Carl Mays' submarine pitch. The one time ace of the Yankee staff often hit the ground with the ball as he brought his arm toward the plate in his underhand way. The older Mays got, the lower he got. Exceptionally fast, the ball seemed to come up out of the ground to spring to the plate. He, too, turned a bit of his

back, or anyway, his hip, to the batters.

Some baseball men claim, though, that Indian Jack Warhop, of the A's, Mays' predecessor in the submarine ball line, delivered the ball even lower than the Yankee star.

Their freak motions undoubtedly added to their effectiveness, even as the leg hitching of Fred Marberry, who tosses his left foot almost in the batter's face, added to his when he was with Washington and Detroit. This season loose feet, tossed up toward the hitter, add some deception to the deliveries of Bill Lee, of the Chicago Cubs, and Harry Gumbert, of the Giants.

Larry Cheney, the spitball pitcher who once worked for Brooklyn, needed nothing of the sort, however. He had no wind-up at all, principally because he had one bad knee and couldn't throw his legs around carelessly.

Then there are the boys who add deception by doing things to the ball. It's harder to cheat nowadays, of course, but they can still try and they often get away with it.

Umpires watch the boys and the balls pretty closely because they are very well aware of this trying. A ball that sails is promptly examined and if found guilty thrown out and the pitcher warned to lead a better life.

A pitcher who takes his glove into the dugout at the end of an inning instead of tossing it outside the foul line on the way to the bench, as the others do, is always the subject of some suspicion. If the ball he throws begins to act funny an inspection of the glove is in order.

Pitchers and sometimes catchers, have been known to conceal beer bottle caps in their gloves for the purpose of giving the ball a helpful nick between pitches.

It wasn't so many seasons back that Charley Robertson, pitched for the Brooklyn Dodgers, the Boston Braves and the Chicago White Sox. The boys suspected that he did something to the ball and it seems they were right. 'Tis said a clubhouse employee in Brooklyn found a tube of glue in his uniform and the remains of an old glove Charlie had forgotten to take home one night.

Leon Cadore, a foxy fella on Brooklyn about the same time, used to wear a piece of sandpaper on the side of his pants. Or so his opponents claimed.

Few pitchers, though, were quite up to the tricks that Russell Ford, of the Yankees - then the Highlanders, Cy Falkenberg, of Cleveland and Eddie Cicotte and Dave Danforth of the Chicago White Sox, were capable of upon any given afternoon.

Ford threw a lot of trick stuff including an emery ball long before that fancy bit of business had been ruled out. He had a small one-inch piece of emery in a hole in his glove, which, of course, he carried to the bench with him at the close of every inning. Falkenberg threw a shineball he had picked up from Ford.

Cicotte, who was later ruled out of the baseball business after the Black Sox scandal, threw what the enemy declared was a shineball. (See BASEBALL, page 3)

BASEBALL (continued from page 2)

The shine effect was achieved, the story goes, by rubbing the ball on the side of his trouser leg where paraffin had been liberally applied. He threw overhand and the paraffin made the ball jump on the way to the plate. As a result of this the opposition hit under the ball most of the time and were saddened by numerous puny infield and outfield flies.

Danforth, if you believe the boys in the dugout, did everything to the ball. The possessor of exceptionally large and strong hands, he is supposed to have loosened the cover of the ball, raised the seams and sometimes nicked it with a specially sharpened thumb nail so as to make it sail.

The Boston Red Sox, along with every other club, were greatly troubled by this pair. Old time bean eaters still tell how one of the cuter members of the club secreted himself in the park after the game one day, and after all had left, entered the White Sox clubhouse. He went through the place thoroughly in an effort to discover what the two, suspected of extraordinary trickery, were using. He didn't come up with any concrete evidence, possibly because the fellows had taken the evidence home with them, but he did make one discovery deemed important and indicative of guilt.

The uniforms of both suspects, he discovered, had rubber pockets. Just the thing, as they pointed out, to hold wax, licorice, glue or any other sticky substance.

They can't get away with all that today, but they have other ways and means. Smart, tricky pitchers wipe the sweat off their forehead and then innocently rub their hands, on their pants. The big idea, of course, is that while four fingers touch their forehead, only two fingers touch their pants. The other two fingers carry pretty good ammunition to the ball for a spitter. Those with strong fingers can squeeze the all until the seams lift a little. That, they know, is enough to give it an illegal hop. And every so often an umpire will find a nick in a ball that could only be caused by rubbing it upon a sharpened uniform belt buckle.

Maybe all this is not exactly cricket, but who cares about cricket anyhow? Our game is baseball.

ANSWER TO CUBSOX KVVZ: Jimmie Dykes was Round Man. Marty Marion was Slats.

GOLF

[From Bruce Nash and Allan Zullo's The Golf Hall of Shame, "Bag of Tricks" section:

JERRY MCGEE in the 1967 Milwaukee Open:

As a rookie, Jerry McGee pulled the old "paralysis by analysis" scam on a veteran--but only after Jerry was bamboozled by a similar con job.

The young McGee, who would become a four-time winner on the PGA Tour, had shot a 68 in the first round of the 1967 Milwaukee Open at Northshore Country Club. The veteran, whom McGee now refuses to name, finished the day with a 73. According to McGee, here's what happened next:

"After the round I went to the practice range, where I was hitting drive after drive," McGee recalled. "Every shot was perfect. I was deep in concentration, popping ball after ball at the 250-yard marker. Then I realized that somebody was watching me. I turned around and it was the old pro, sitting on his bag right behind me."

McGee was surprised that a veteran and winner of several Tour events would be studying the swing of a rookie.

"Rook," said the pro, "that was a super round you played today. But I have to be honest with you. I just can't believe you shot a 68 with that grip." The crafty veteran then left without uttering another word.

Up until then McGee had never even thought twice about his grip. But suddenly he couldn't hit a ball straight. All he could think about was his grip. He dwelled on it on the practice tee, then in bed that night, and again the next morning warming up.

McGee started the second round with two double-bogets and another bogey while the old pro parred the first three holes. Not until they reached the fourth tee did it dawn on McGee that the veteran had pulled a psych job on him. With the mettle of a more seasoned player, McGee decided to turn the tables and put a sting on the perpetrator.

McGee strolled up to him and, with a voice dripping in reverence, said, "You know, I've really got a lot of respect for you. Do you mind if I ask you a question?"

"Why, sure, rook, ask me anything you want," said the smiling pro, obviously delighted that the seed he had planted in McGee's mind had sprouted and messed up his game.

"Well, I'm really trying to work on my grip, trying to make it as good as yours," said McGee. "But I've got to ask you," he added, putting on his best impersonation of wide-eyed innocence, "do you inhale or exhale at impact?"

The old pro looked quizzically at McGee and stammered, "Well, uh, I don't know." For the rest of the round the veteran hit it all over the place. After he putted out, the old pro, his face flushed with anger, stormed over to McGee, jabbed a finger in his chest, and snarled, "You little SOB, you got back at me!"

STORIES YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED...AND WILL WISH YOU HAD:

RUSSIAN ARRESTED AFTER EATING HUMAN RAVIOLI

MOSCOW (Reuter) - A Russian has admitted making human ravioli out of a well-known criminal and eating it during a drinking session with two friends in the Siberian town of Kemerovo, the Interfax news agency said Wednesday.

It quoted local police as saying homeless people rummaging through a garbage dump discovered a human head and other body parts which were later found to be the remains of Vladimir Laptin, a criminal who had been convicted many times.

The agency said a man later confessed to police that he had killed Laptin and used his flesh to stuff "pelmeni" -- a version of the Italian pasta dish ravioli.

"The murderer admitted he had cut Laptin's corpse into pieces, thrown the head on a rubbish heap, tossed the bones around the hostel where he lived and made pelmeni out of what was left which he ate with two drinking partners," it said.

Interfax said the three had been arrested but did not say if any charges had been brought.



Larry Peery
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